Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIMA 02823 042145Z ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /081 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9413
INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ

CONFIDENTIAL LIMA 2823

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, PBOR, MO, PE, ES

SUBJECT: HONDURAS-SALVADOR DISPUTE

REF: SAN SALVADOR 1495

- 1. JOSE LUIS BUSTAMANTE Y RIVERO WAS FORMALLY INSTALLED HERE ON APRIL 3 AS THE MEDIATOR OF THIS DISPUTE IN A SOLEMN CEREMONY GRACED BY THE PRESENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS MARTINEZ AND PALMA AND BY CONSIDERABLE ORATORY ABOUT PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP.
- 2. BUSTAMANTE TOLD ME LATER AT A SOCIAL AFFAIR THAT THE FIRST STEP IN THE PROCESS WILL BE THE SUBMISSION TO HIM WITHIN 30 DAYS OF A JOINT DOCUMENT FROM THE TWO SIDES SETTING FORTH ALL THE POINTS OF PRIOR AGREEMENT. WITHIN 30 DAYS THEREAFTER THE TWO SIDES WILL SUBMIT A SECOND DOCUMENT COVERING ALL THE ISSUES IN DISPUTE BUSTAMANTE SAID HE PLANNED TO VISIT THE TWO CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 LIMA 02823 042145Z

COUNTRIES AND THEIR FRONTIER AT A LATER TIME "WHEN IT IS NOT TOO HOT".

3. IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION CESAR BATRES REMARKED THAT THE WORKING OUT OF THE FIRST DOCUMENT COULD BE SIGNIFICANT IN INDICATING HOW WELL DISPOSED THE GOES IS TOWARD GETTING ON TO A REAL SOLUTION. HE THOUGHT ACCEP-

TANCE ON THAT SIDE WITHOUT AUGMENT OF THE 70 PERCENT OR SO OF THE BORDER DEMARCATION OT HERETOFORE SUBJECT TO DISCUSSION WOULD BE ENCOURAGING. BATRES ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT EL SALVADOR'S UNSTABLE INTERNAL SITUATION WOULD AGAIN PROVE AN IMPEDIMENT.

4. COMMENT: BUSTAMANTE SEEMS WELL CAST IN MOST RESPECTS FOR HIS DIFFICULT ROLE. HE HAS VAST EXPERIENCE IN INTERNATIONAL LAW, A REPUTATION FOR INTEGRITY AND UNQUESTIONED IMPARTIALITY. HE IS A PARTICUALRLY AMIABLE SOFT-SPOKEN OLD GENTLEMAN (IN MARKED CONTRAST TO HIS EQUALLY DISTINGUSIHED BUT NOTABLEY IRASCIBLE CONTEMPORARIES, HAYA DE LA TORRE AND PEDRO BELTRAN). HE GIVES EVERY EVIDENCE OF UNFAILING LUCIDITY AND INTELLIGENCE. BUT I HAVE TO WONDER IF THE EX-PRESIDENT HAS THE TOUGHNESS AND ENERGY THAT MAY WELL BE REQUIRED TO FORCE THROUGH THE COMPROMISES NECESSARY FOR A SOLUTION. SHLAUDEMAN

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TAGS: PEPR, PBOR, HO, PE, ES, (BUSTAMANTE Y RIVERO, LUIS)

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